

## Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SCCT-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 /075 W

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R 301029Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3100

INFO AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

COMIDEASTFOR

CINCEUR

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 1380

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TC, YE

SUBJ: YEMEN PRESIDENT AL-HAMDI'S VISIT TO UAE

REF: SANA 1660

1. YARG PRESIDENT IBRAHIM AL-HAMDI DEPARTED ABU DHABI FOR DOHA JUNE 29 AFTER 30-HOUR VISIT. AL-HAMDI WAS GIVEN RED CARPET TREATMENT WITH BOTH UAE PRESIDENT SHAIKH ZAYID AND VICE PRESIDENT SHAIKH RASHID AS WELL AS ASSORTED MINISTERS AT AIRPORT FOR BOTH ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE. ALHAMDI ALSO GREETED BY SOME FOUR HUNDRED CHEERING AND UNDOUBTEDLY WELL-SCREENED YEMENIS WHEN HE DEPLANED. VISIT BEGAN ON LESS THAN AUSPICIOUS NOTE, HOWEVER, WHEN AL-HAMDI'S PLANE WAS SOME TWO AND HALF HOURS LATE, KEEPING DIGNATARIES FROM SHAIKH RASHID (WHO WAS PERSONALLY PUT OUT) ON DOWN COOLING THEIR HEELS AT AIRPORT. (ZAYID WAITED IN TOWN.) WE UNDERSTAND THAT AL-HAMDI STOPPED BRIEFLY IN SAUDI ARABIA ON WAY BUT SOMEHOW THAT WORD NOT RECEIVED HERE.

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2. AS FOR SUBSTANCE OF VISIT, FINAL COMMUNIQUE EXTREMELY BLAND. TWO COUNTRIES RECOGNIZED PLO AS REP OF PALESTINIANS, EXPRESSED CONCERN FOR DEVELOPMENTS IN LEBANON AND CALLED FOR RETURN OF ALL OCCUPIED LANDS. ON BILATERAL RELATIONS ONLY REFERENCE WAS YEMENI EXPRESSION OF THANKS TO UAE FOR HELP IN DEVELOPING YEMEN INTO "MODERN STATE." THERE WAS NO SPECIFIC MENTION MUCH LESS COMMITMENT OF FURTHER AID.

3. WE HAVE IMPRESSION, BUT AS YET NO DEFINITE INFORMATION, THAT VISIT PRODUCED LITTLE IN WAY OF ADDITIONAL UAE ASSISTANCE. IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR JUNE 29, SHAIKH RASHID NOTED BOTH HIS SURPRISE (AND OBVIOUS PLEASURE) AT HAVING HEARD SHAIKH ZAYID FOR FIRST TIME IN DEALING WITH FOREIGN VISITOR EXPLAIN AT LENGTH TO AL-HAMDI EXTENT OF UAE'S EXISTING COMMITMENTS AND LIMITS OF ITS FUNDS. WE ALSO NOTED THAT ATMOSPHERE AT STATE DINNER WAS UNUSUALLY GLUM, WITH TWO LEADERS SITTING SIDE BY SIDE EXCHANGING HARDLY A WORD. NOR DID AL-HAMDI LOOK PARTICULARLY HAPPY ON DEPARTURE NEXT DAY.

4. COMMENT: IT IS GENERALLY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ABU DHABI IS HEAVILY OVERCOMMITTED TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS IN RELATION TO ITS PROBABLY INCOME THIS YEAR. SHAIKH ZAYID HAS BEEN GETTING A LOT OF FLAK FROM HIS ADVISORS ABOUT THIS RECENTLY. IT IS UNFORTUNATE, FROM POINT OF VIEW OF YEMEN'S LEGITIMATE NEEDS, THAT AL-HAMDI HAPPENED TO HIT TOWN JUST AT MOMENT WHEN MESSAGE SEEMS TO HAVE GOT THROUGH TO SHAIKH ZAYID, BUT SOMEONE HAD TO BE THE FIRST TO HEAR IT LIKE IT IS IN ABU DHABI THESE DAYS.  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Subject:** YEMEN PRESIDENT AL-HAMDI'S VISIT TO UAE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, TC, YE, (HAMDI, IBRAHIM MUHAMMAD AL)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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